

Updated May 22, 2020

Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant Frequently Asked Questions

Summer Program Providers
Parents

SUMMER PROGRAM PROVIDERS

What is the Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant?

The Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant is a funding opportunity intended to open and expand summer program options for school-age children ages 5-12 throughout Utah. Organizations must operate programs Monday through Friday for at least eight hours per day. Funding is available for programs operating 6-10 weeks.

Which programs are eligible?

This grant opportunity is for license-exempt programs, including Workforce Services-approved programs, with a facility number issued by the Child Care Licensing program. Interested applicants who do not have license-exempt status must apply with the Child Care Licensing program. A facility number is required as part of the Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant application.

What should a program do if they are interested in the grant but do not have a facility number?

A facility number with license-exempt status is required to submit the Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant application. An organization interested in this opportunity that is not currently license-exempt must apply with the Child Care Licensing program. Processing may take a few business days; a facility number will be issued if the program is eligible to receive licence-exempt status.

Why are private providers ineligible for this grant opportunity?

Many parents need summer-only options for their school-age children because their typical summer arrangements, such as extended family care or short-term specialty camps, may not be available this year. This grant is intended to provide financial support to organizations that typically offer summer programs but may be struggling to do so this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although private child care providers are not eligible, they may want to consider applying for the <u>Child Care Operations Grant</u> which provides child care business owners with the means to stay open and operating during the COVID-19 pandemic despite low enrollment. The Office of Child Care acknowledges the challenges private child care providers are facing and continues to consider ways to support programs during this difficult time.

Can a program apply for this grant opportunity if they are under contract with Workforce Services operating as a One Utah Child Care site?

Yes, however, the contract periods of these two programs cannot overlap. As a result, if a One Utah Child Care site is awarded funding through the Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant, the funding term for summer programming will not begin until the contract term for the One Utah Child Care site expires. Organizations with specific questions should inquire via email: DWS-OCCafterschoolgrants@utah.gov.

When is funding available?

Eligible programs may be under contract with the Office of Child Care as early as June 15, 2020, and programs are eligible for payment beginning on that date. Contracts can span 6-10 weeks depending on the length of the summer program. Programmatic costs prior to June 15, 2020, cannot be paid for with the summer grant.

Do organizations awarded a Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant need to include specific programming?

Programs awarded a Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant are encouraged to provide a mix of academic and enrichment activities. Given school closures as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the needs of school-age youth this summer may be different than in past years. Organizations are encouraged to consider programming to address the social needs of youth, as well as spring and summer learning loss. Resources will be made available to grantees to support these programming efforts.

Is funding available to support a virtual summer program?

No. This grant opportunity is for organizations that provide in-person summer programs for at least eight hours per day Monday through Friday so that parents can have a safe and enriching environment for their school-age children while they are at work.

If an organization intends to operate a summer program in multiple locations can they submit just one application?

No. Organizations must submit one application per location for which they are seeking the Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant. Organizations can apply to serve up to three groups of 18 school-age youth per program location. OCC may adjust the number of groups for which an organization can receive funding to ensure there is adequate summer programming available throughout the state.

What are the factors being considered when determining grant awards?

This is a non-competitive grant opportunity; however, there will be a limited number of awards available in each county to ensure that school-age children throughout Utah have access to a summer program. Grants will be awarded in the order in which the applications for grants are received until the number of awards in each county are filled.

Is there an application deadline?

Yes. To be considered for this grant opportunity, programs must submit an application by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 29, 2020.

When will organizations be notified if they will be awarded a Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant?

OCC anticipates notifying organizations of awards approximately one week after the application closes. This timeline is subject to change at any time due to processing delays, the need for additional program information, or other unforeseen factors.

Are organizations allowed a period of time to plan and hire staff for the summer program?

Yes. Organizations can have up to one week of planning time and should include that time in the calculation of program operation. Organizations awarded a grant can invoice OCC for activities during the planning week.

What can the funds be used for?

Funding from this grant may be used for regular program expenses, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Rent
- Wages and benefits of staff
- Supplies
- Indirect costs
- Transportation
- Program activities
- Other expenses necessary to ensure compliance with Child Care Licensing health and safety protocols

Why are programs being encouraged to pay an enhanced rate of \$15 per hour for staff?

The Office of Child Care understands that programs may want to offer higher than typical wages this summer to cover hazard pay and other factors. This grant is intended to provide sufficient funding to support programming needs and pay staff an enhanced hourly rate, if the program chooses to do so.

Can an organization receive this grant if they are already funded by another state grant?

Organizations that have a current contract with Workforce Services or another state agency, such as the Utah State Board of Education, are encouraged to consider how to braid funds to enhance and expand summer programming. The Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant can be used to supplement but NOT supplant other funds. Grantees with a current Workforce Services contract are encouraged to expend any unused funds from State Fiscal Year 2020 before using funds issued by this grant. Programs must invoice Workforce Services under the appropriate contract with the expectations and invoicing procedures of each contract.

How will funding amounts be determined? Will I need to submit a detailed budget?

Organizations will receive \$4,500 per week per group of 18 school-age youth to be served in the summer program. Sites will be limited to serve a maximum of three groups of school-age youth. Programs will receive funding for a minimum of six weeks and maximum of 10 weeks.

Organizations do not need to submit a detailed budget for this grant.

Are organizations eligible if they have not previously received grant funding from Workforce Services?

Yes. Organizations that intend to operate a full-time summer program for school-age children are encouraged to apply to open or expand services.

Can fees be charged to families who enroll their school-age children in the summer program?

Yes, organizations are allowed to charge fees. However, fees for all program enrollees must be determined on a sliding scale and children eligible for free school lunch must have all fees waived.

How will grant payments be issued to organizations?

Organizations awarded the Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant will be required to invoice Workforce Services to receive payment. An invoice template will be provided and can be submitted as frequently as weekly or at least once per month.

Organizations will be required to submit attendance records with their invoice and may be asked for additional documentation as determined necessary by Workforce Services.

What should an organization do if their typical operating space is closed due to the pandemic?

Organizations are encouraged to be creative in thinking about their space needs for the summer and should have conversations with local school districts, municipalities and other entities that may have accommodations for summer programs.

Are programs limited to enrolling a certain number of students in their summer program?

The Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant will only fund a maximum of three groups of 18 school-age youth, totalling 54. However, programs can accommodate more school-age youth if they can operate within licensing requirements and have other funds with which to support that programming.

Are there staffing requirements for summer programs receiving the Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant?

Programs are expected to have two caregivers per group of 18 school-age youth, as well as a program coordinator onsite to ensure that health and safety protocols are being met and who will serve as the OCC point of contact.

Are there COVID-19-specific protocols that programs must adhere to?

Yes. Programs must adhere to all health and safety protocols as outlined by Child Care Licensing, which are subject to change at any time. Some areas of the state have stricter protocols and programs are expected to meet those local health department directives, as well. Visit the Child Care Licensing program's website for more information.

PARENTS

Will summer programs be available to children this year?

Many child care and out-of-school time programs are open and available to children now. Parents are encouraged to maintain their child's enrollment at their current provider, if it is available during the hours needed. The Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant opportunity is intended to increase the number of summer programs available to families across the state, particularly as some programs may not be operating due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

How can families find available summer programs in their area?

Families seeking care for their children should visit <u>careaboutchildcare.utah.gov</u>.

How can families access financial assistance for child care or a summer program?

Summer programs often charge enrollment and program fees. Programs that receive a Summer 2020 Supplemental Grant are required to use a sliding fee scale, so low-income families can access these programs for free or at a low-cost.

Families seeking assistance for their children up to age 13 (or 18 for children with special needs) should consider applying for a child care subsidy at jobs.utah.gov/mycase.